

Filed for intro on 02/04/2002

HOUSE RESOLUTION 202
By Brooks

A RESOLUTION to commend Lee A. "Buddy" Archer, Jr., for his meritorious military service and his remarkable accomplishments in education and business.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who through their valor and extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as professional leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Lee A. "Buddy" Archer, Jr. is most assuredly one such admirable citizen who is richly deserving of this Body's commendation; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Archer has distinguished himself as a conscientious and dedicated military pilot, educator, and business leader, and as a man of honor and integrity; and

WHEREAS, born in 1921 in New York City, New York, Mr. Archer earned an Associate in Arts in Geography from the University of California, a Bachelor of Arts in International Business from New York University, and a Doctoral Studies in International Policies from the University of Pittsburgh; he attended an Advanced Financial Management Program at Kings College and was awarded an honorary Ph.D; and

HR0202

01188583

WHEREAS, Lee A. "Buddy" Archer, Jr. valiantly enlisted in the United States Army in 1941, and trained as an Aviation Cadet at Tuskegee in 1942, where he demonstrated great promise as a pilot and as a leader among his peers; and

WHEREAS, during Word War II, Buddy Archer, flying P-51 airplanes, achieved 4.5 aerial victories, the largest number of victories obtained by pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group; and

WHEREAS, considered by many to be World War II's only Black American Ace Pilot, he was offered the opportunity to review his record forty years after his distinguished service, which would have guaranteed him "ace" status; however, a humble man, content with the past, he declined; and

WHEREAS, a skilled and conscientious pilot, Mr. Archer courageously flew 169 combat missions, and, in addition to his service during World War II, bravely served as a jet pilot during the Korean Conflict, where he served as a Commander of several flight squadrons; and

WHEREAS, Lee A. "Buddy" Archer, Jr. later served with distinction as the Command Executive Officer and Deputy Commander of Bases for the USAF Southern Command Panama Canal Zone; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Archer was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with 18 Oak Leaf Clusters for his honorable military service; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement from the United States Army, at the eminent rank of Lieutenant Colonel, Mr. Archer served with acumen and probity as an educator and a business executive; and

WHEREAS, Lee A. "Buddy" Archer, Jr. served as a Professor of Geopolitics in the Air Science Department of New York University, and he later taught government and politics at the University of Maryland and the University of Florida's Overseas Division; and

WHEREAS, an effective and accomplished leader, Buddy Archer served as the Corporate Vice President for Urban Affairs for the General Foods Corporation, Chief Executive Officer for North Street Capital Corporation, and Chair of the Hudson Commercial Corporation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Archer now serves as a talented and much sought after public speaker, motivating and inspiring audiences of all ages; and

WHEREAS, an exceptional asset to his community and country, he epitomizes the ideal of the heroic military leader, astute educator, and consummate professional; and

WHEREAS, Lee A. "Buddy" Archer, Jr.'s service in the United States Army can only be categorized as outstanding, and his bravery under fire was in the best tradition of the members of the armed forces; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon this General Assembly to acknowledge Mr. Archer for his remarkable military service and his extraordinary contributions to education and business; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor Lee A. "Buddy" Archer, Jr., salute his courage and commitment as a member of the United States Army, commend his great valor as a pilot during World War II, recognize his achievements in business and education, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.